

NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
FACT SHEET
(pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

Permittee Name: Placer Turquoise Ridge Inc.
(formerly Getchell Gold Corporation)
HC66, Box 220
Golconda, NV 89414

Permit Number: NEV96009

Location: 28 miles Northeast of Golconda, Humboldt County, Nevada
Township 38N & 39N, Range 42E, Sections 22, 23, 26, 27, 33, 34
Latitude: 41° 13.86' N
Longitude: 117° 15.00' W

Permitted Flow: 30-Day Average: 0.0220 MGD
Daily Maximum: 0.0375 MGD

Wellhead Protection:

The facility is not within a Wellhead Protection capture zone. There are no public water supply wells within 7000 feet of the facility.

General:

Placer Turquoise Ridge, Inc. operates the Turquoise Ridge Mine, which is a gold mine. The facility is located 28 miles northeast of Golconda, Humboldt County, Nevada, and employs approximately 300 workers. The Turquoise Ridge mine was formerly operated by Getchell Gold Corporation, to which groundwater discharge permit NEV96009 was issued. The permitted discharge is treated sanitary wastewater effluent generated by the workforce at the facility, and includes restroom waste, showers and change room floor drains. There is a substantial amount of highly mineralized dirt rinsed from boots and work clothing associated with the influent to the treatment system.

The wastewater treatment system consists of two rotating biological contactor trains. The first train is composed of 2 parallel package units, and the second train is a single unit. The package contactor units are Rotordisk™ supplied by CMS Group Inc. of Concord, Ontario, Canada. Each unit is comprised of a primary settling chamber, a “rotor zone” with 7000 square feet of bio-support media, a final settling chamber, and a chlorine contactor. Disinfected effluent will be discharged to the on-site lined tailings impoundment for evaporation. Water from this impoundment is not recovered for use in the processing plant.

Receiving Water Characteristics:

Discharge of treated effluent will be to a lined tailings impoundment facility. This is a zero discharge facility. Effluent will not contact waters of the State of Nevada.

Effluent Flow and Characteristics:

During the period from January 2002 to June 2006, the following was reported for effluent discharged to the tailings impoundment:

| PARAMETER | AVERAGE | MAXIMUM | MINIMUM |
|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
|-----------|---------|---------|---------|

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------|--------|--------|
| Outfall 001 (STP-1 & STP-2) | Flow (MGD) (Permit Limit = 0.025 MGD) | 0.0039 | 0.0076 | 0.0011 |
| | BOD ₅ (mg/l) (Permit Limit = 30 mg/l) | 8.02 | 65 | 2 |
| Outfall 002 (STP-3) | Flow (MGD) (Permit Limit = 0.0125 MGD) | 0.0081 | 0.0169 | 0.0042 |
| | BOD ₅ (mg/l) (Permit Limit = 30 mg/l) | 3.63 | 34 | < 2 |
| Tailings Basin Underdrain System | Fecal Coliform (cfu or mpn /100 ml) (Permit Limit=Monitor & Report) | 6.78 | 54 | < 1 |

Proposed Effluent Limitations and Special Conditions:

The following are the proposed effluent limitations and monitoring requirements proposed for the renewal of the permit:

| PARAMETER | | DISCHARGE LIMITATION | | MONITORING REQUIREMENTS | |
|---|--|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| | | 30-Day Average | Daily Maximum | Measurement Frequency | Sample Type |
| Outfall 001 STP-1 & STP-2 Combined Flow | Effluent Flow (MGD) | 0.025 | 0.0375 | Continuous | Flow Meter |
| | BOD ₅ (mg/l) | 30 | 45 | Monthly | Discrete |
| | Total Suspended Solids (mg/l) | 30 | 45 | Monthly | Discrete |
| | Fecal Coliform (CFU or MPN/ 100 ml) | 23 | 240 | Quarterly | Discrete |
| Outfall 002 STP-3 | Effluent Flow (MGD) | 0.0125 | 0.0185 | Continuous | Flow Meter |
| | BOD ₅ (mg/l) | 30 | 45 | Monthly | Discrete |
| | Total Suspended Solids (mg/l) | 30 | 45 | Monthly | Discrete |
| | Fecal Coliform (CFU or MPN/ 100 ml) | 23 | 240 | Quarterly | Discrete |
| Basin Under- Drain System | Cumulative Volume Evacuated (Gallons) | Monitor & Report | | Quarterly | Discrete |
| | Fecal Coliform (CFU or MPN/ 100 ml) | Monitor & Report | | Quarterly | Discrete |

Schedule of Compliance:

The Permittee shall achieve compliance with the effluent limitations upon issuance of the permit.

Rationale for Permit Requirements:

The monitoring proposed by this permit is consistent with practices at similar facilities, to protect groundwater quality.

Procedures for Public Comment:

The Notice of the Division's intent to issue a permit authorizing the facility to discharge to a lined tailings impoundment subject to the conditions contained within the permit, is being sent to the **Elko Daily Free Press and the Humboldt Sun** for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of 30 days following the date of the public notice. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator. The deadline for receipt at the Division Office of all comments pertaining to this public notice period is **5:00 P. M., December 16, 2006.**

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator or any interested agency, person or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determined to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

Proposed Determination

The Division has made the tentative determination to issue the proposed permit for a five (5) year period.